

From Where We Stand . . .

Nose Dive For Happiness

Your dollar will probably buy a little less next year than the planner planned! It is reported that even with the 10 per cent tax surcharge and \$6 billion reduction in spending demanded by Congress, the federal deficit for fiscal 1968 will be around \$25 billion — \$5 billion more than expected. Delay in passing the tax increase and higher Viet Nam war costs are blamed.

The red ink outlook would be a good deal less grim if our public officials could do a bit better in figuring out what we don't need. Many unbelievable projects pop to the surface of the federal budget and another one is reported by the Clarkton, North Carolina, Times. It seems the U. S. Public Health Service, as part of a \$249,000 research program, ". . . has been sending psychologists and social scientists down to Puerto Rico to ask its citizens what causes them joy or sorrow." It is not surprising that they discovered people were happier if they were healthy, had money, were educated and were young!

The Times suggests that if a research project were done in the U. S. it would be found that the taxpayer's ". . . happiness quotient takes a nose dive everytime he hears about some of the peculiar ways his money is being spent these days."

At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

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What Government Gives —

After months of wrangling, Congress finally passed a long-expected tax increase — and at the same time, voted to force cuts in government spending by \$6 billion. In commenting on passage of the tax increase package, U. S. News & World Report notes: "At this point, you can be sure of one thing: Taxes are going up. You cannot be really sure that spending will go down." If precedent is any indication, spending cuts will be illusory. New spending measures could easily wipe out the pluses of any cuts. A lot depends upon whether the people themselves are ready to accept the comparatively slight sacrifices that government fiscal responsibility would call for.

Writing the July issue of The Reader's Digest, Representative Wilbur D. Mills, chairman of the powerful House Ways and Means Committee, and often called "the most important man on Capitol Hill," tells why we must control federal spending — difficult as that may be. The pressure on Congress to appropriate tax funds is almost irresistible. These pressures are so great that many have concluded government spending is no longer controllable. Mills

himself concedes that the difficulties are great. He describes how on one day, February 8, 1968, eleven congressional committees met to consider numerous spending proposals. These included \$1.3 billion for the Colorado River Basin, and additional billions for aid to higher education. On the same day, Congress received the President's \$3 billion foreign aid message and, in Mills' words: "That same day, more than 70 new bills were introduced, calling for everything from a new \$60,444,000 federal building to a \$150-million-a-year scientific research program." This was not all. Again, on the same day, the White House requested a \$1.2 billion supplemental appropriation for welfare spending. And the Secretary of Interior called for funds for a national shrine in North Carolina.

Even as the demands for new tax dollars mounted, spending on old programs continued. In a 24-hour period, the government paid out \$474 million — \$54 million more than it took in. Mills points out that federal programs, once started, inevitably increase in scope and cost. Few ever disappear. He quotes a Tax Foundation study, which reports that in 13 years no fewer than 112 new federal programs have been launched. In the first year of their respective operations, they cost \$3.6 billion. By fiscal 1968, their annual costs had risen to \$16.5 billion. Most discouraging, in the opinion of Mills, are the endless overlapping and duplication of these programs and agencies. "At present, 30 separate programs help with teacher training, 57 . . . for job training, 35 for housing. More than 260 programs administered by 16 separate agencies and departments are included in the war on poverty."

Mills believes most strongly that the only way to bring federal spending under control is through creation of a new Hoover-style commission — "a 12-man, independent, bipartisan Government Program Evaluation Commission drawn from the top ranks of American leadership outside government — to be set up to go over federal programs periodically to determine whether our tax dollars are being well spent." However, in the long run, the establishment of such a commission will be in vain without public support, and a realization that the security of our homes, our jobs, our savings — and our freedom — are at stake. Without this realization, as Mills puts it, ". . . even if we could eliminate every obviously wasteful government project, the expansion in federal spending would still not be curbed."

The passage of the new tax bill may have the salutary effect of helping us to realize the truth of the old saying, "what government gives, it must first take away."

At least that's the way it looks from where we stand.

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Across The Fence Row

A university student, who was making a study of juvenile delinquency, telephoned 12 homes about 9 p.m. to ask parents if they knew where their children were. Five of the calls were answered by children who had no idea where their parents were.

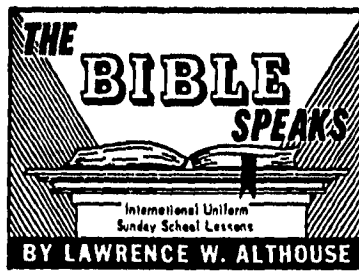
Not a new sin has been discovered for at least 4,000 years.

Local Weather Forecast

(From the U. S. Weather Bureau at the Harrisburg State Airport)

The five-day forecast for the period Saturday through next Wednesday calls for temperatures to average near normal with daytime highs in the mid 80's and over-night lows in the mid to upper 60's. Seasonal temperatures throughout the period with the warmest over the week-end. Normal high-low for the period is 87-65.

Rain may total one-fourth to one-half-inch as showers or thunder showers Sunday or Monday.



AN AMAZING FORGETTERY

Lesson for July 28, 1968

Background Scriptures: Daniel 9:1-23. Devotional Reading: Psalms 13.

People today, particularly, youth, have little inclination to study history. "I'm alive now," they say, "why study about what people did in the 'old days'?" This same reaction is likely to occur in response to the Bible, especially the Old Testament. People feel that they have enough of their own problems without concerning themselves with those of a bygone age.



Rev. Althouse age.

Reliving the past

What they do not realize, of course, is that it is precisely because of our current problems that we turn to the Old Testament. Philosopher George Santayana has said that "Those who do not remember the past are condemned to relive it." William L. Shirer quotes these words in the beginning of his book, *The Rise and Fall Of The Third Reich*, indicating that the tragedy of Nazi oppression could occur because people in the 1930's had forgotten the lessons of the past and that something of a similar nature could happen again if we fail to learn anything significant from World War Two.

We find this true of the Bible. It has something to teach us that is just as vital to us today as it was to the people of God centuries ago. This is demonstrated again and again in the history of the Hebrew people. Failing to remember and learn from the mistakes of the past, they were compelled to relive them again and again. Their problem was not in failing to grasp some new lesson, but in their refusal to learn an old one.

Something present

Biblical scholars today believe that the Book of Daniel was written to remind the Jews of an im-

portant lesson from the past. It recalled those hard days of their captivity in Chaldea when the faith of Daniel had brought much-needed encouragement and hope to the captive Jews. The writer of Daniel recalled these events, not for the sake of history itself, but to help them remember what this particular event of the past had to say about the present situation in which they found themselves.

The people for whom the Book of Daniel was written were no longer captives in Chaldea. Their fathers had returned to Judea when Cyrus the Persian had defeated Chaldea and taken its place. Now, centuries later, it was the Macedonians who were in control. Under Antiochus Epiphanes, they persecuted the Jews, profaning the temple and forbidding them to worship there. The Jews resisted this persecution as best they could, but they were beginning to lose hope and despair as becoming the popular mood.

Beyond Daniel

Thus, Daniel was written to remind the despondent nation of another day of persecution and encourage them with the inspiring story of how God had sustained his people in that dark hour. Although Daniel had been dead for several centuries, he could still serve as an inspiration to a people who were losing hope.

He should be no less inspiring to us too. He was only one man, yet this one man was able to rally a whole nation by his example. But the story of Daniel points beyond the plous and courageous Jew of the Babylonia exile; it directs our attention to the real source of Judah's hope: God. It was God who worked through men like Daniel to sustain the Jews during their exile and eventually restore the nation. He had done it before and he would do it again. He would sustain the Jews during their persecution by the Macedonians, just as he will sustain us in periods of trial today. The Book of Daniel calls men to remember the past, and thus gain strength for the present and hope for the future.

Several years ago, Senator McClelland chided a witness before a congressional committee for his "amazing forgettery." The people of Israel constantly needed to be reminded of God's saving acts in the past. Perhaps our "forgettery" is no less "amazing"

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Attend The Church Of Your Choice Sunday



NOW IS THE TIME . . .

By Max Smith
Lancaster County Agent

To Attend Cattle Field Day
Elsewhere in this paper details of the Cattlemen's Field Day may be found; This event should be very worthwhile and timely for all cattle feeders in this part of the country. Feeders are urged to mark this date on their schedule and attend.

To Flush Ewe Flock
Sheep breeders are reminded of the good practice of having their ewe flock in a gaining condition at breeding time; this may be attained by feeding a few pounds of extra grain per day or by grazing the flock of good grass pasture. Ewes that are in real good condition at breeding time will usually throw more twin lambs than if they are in poor physical shape.

To Use Band Seeder
Alfalfa growers who are planning to make an early August seeding should make every effort to use the band seeding method; most new grain drills or

grass seeders will have this attachment, or it may be purchased for other models. The idea of dropping the alfalfa seed over a band of fertilizer and then pressing the soil and the seed together with a press wheel or a cultipacker should increase the chances of getting a good stand.

According to the *Agricultural Outlook Digest*, (2049-68), consumer incomes are expected to rise further in the next few months, but not as fast as in the first half of the year. Legislation to increase income taxes and reduce proposed government expenditures will tend to slow demand expansion. As a result of high employment and rising wage rates, consumer demand continued strong in the second quarter. Income gains and rising prices pushed the dollar value of retail store sales about 8 percent above a year ago.

Farm News This Week

John Harnish Is Holstein Field Day Contest Winner — Page 1

Farm Custom Work Rates Show Moderate Increase — Page 16

Cattle Field Day To Be Held By Extension — Page 1

Swinemen Have Field Day At Stauffer Homestead — Page 1

Rep. Hill Speaks At Extension Meeting — Page 1

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